



Aanii, my fellow Tribal Citizens, I am Fred Kiogima. I am a retired Gunnery Sergeant of the United States Marine Corps. My father is the late Augustine Kiogima II, a WWII veteran of the United States Air Force. My mother is the late Helen Agnes (Shawa) Kiogima, who walked on after a hard fought battle with cancer.

I ask for your vote as we participate in our political system as afforded to us in our Constitution. As we exercise our right to vote for our elected leadership, Tribal Council, we will all make a decision based on many factors, i.e. employment history, community involvement, education, past accomplishments, or a combination of these factors.

As I prepare to cast my vote, I will be considering the above attributes, and conduct my own due diligence, so that the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians will be led by the best qualified citizens we have to offer. I believe and have said *"We should always elect those that will lead us, represent us, protect our culture, our heritage, our language, and our ways, with a demeanor that will reflect honorably upon all of us, on local, state, and national levels."* As a retired Marine, I will always look for leadership that has unquestionable integrity, honor, courage and commitment. To lead the Odawa people, we must always remember that there are over 4500 Tribal citizens worldwide.

I had the distinct pleasure of serving as your Tribal Chairman and as a member of the Odawa Casino Board of Directors. In both positions I served with honor and integrity, always being cognizant that I represented the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and always mindful about how all my decisions affected our citizenry.

My past leadership roles, schooling, and dealing with budgets on short term, long term and strategic planning were an asset as I served with pride, honesty and integrity on the Odawa Casino Board of Directors, having the opportunity to oversee the budget for the casino, 600 plus employees, through the General Manager, was a natural fit.

Having the honor to have served recently as your Tribal Chairman, I can attest to the fact that the role of the Executive Office and Tribal Council are inherently connected, but do understand they serve entirely different roles in the function of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians. The Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches serve common, but separate roles, in our functioning of the Tribal government.

As we continue our journey to complete sovereignty, it is imperative that we honor the separations of powers and rules between the three branches of government. The Executive Office and Tribal Council are charged with specific duties in the Constitution and we must always adhere to a system of checks and balances to move the Tribe forward.

Chi miigwech for **your vote!**

Semper Fi,  
Fred Kiogima  
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